

In the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A high power, integrated fiber laser amplifier comprising a seed laser producing a seed pulse and one or more power amplifier stages comprising:

a fiber preamplifier receiving and amplifying the seed pulse, said fiber preamplifier having a first core diameter;

a splitter arranged to receive light from said preamplifier and split said light into a plurality of channels,

a plurality of fiber power amplifier amplifiers, each of which comprises ~~comprising~~ a low numerical aperture, coiled clad fiber, having a core diameter larger than said first core diameter,

means for coupling each of said fiber preamplifier channels to a respective one of said fiber power amplifier amplifiers.

2. (Original) A high power, integrated fiber laser amplifier according to claim 1 wherein said low numerical aperture is between 0.06 and 0.08.

3. (Original) A high power, integrated fiber laser system according to claim 1 further comprising a tapered fiber bundle connected to the cladding of said fiber power amplifier for directing pump energy into said cladding.

4. (Original) A high power, integrated fiber laser according to claim 1 further comprising:

first means for pumping said fiber preamplifier,

second means for pumping said fiber power amplifier, and

means for synchronizing the seed pulse with said first and second means for pumping to reduce ASE.